GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5516
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
REDUCTION IN PRICES OF DRUGS BY DPCRC
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Drug Price Control Review Committee (DPCRC) has suggested to reduce high price of drugs ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide some subsidy to the manufacturers of drugs for reducing the prices of drugs in the country ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether the DPCRC has also suggested that low cost drugs may be taken out of price control regime ;

(f) if so, the details of drugs qualifying as low cost drugs and the basis for making such a suggestion ;

(g) whether the Union Government propose to accept this suggestion ; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) to (h) : A Committee named Drug Price Control Review Committee(DPCRC), under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals was set up to review the current drug price control mechanism and to suggest alternative models, if any, with a view to reducing the rigours of price control, where they had become counter productive. The recommendations of the Committee, including that relating to exemption of low-cost drugs from price control, have been taken into account while formulating the `Pharmaceutical Policy-2002` announced by the Government recently, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.